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The specimen was placed alive in a small tin box which contained several live specimens of the dusky salamander, Desmognathus fuscus (Rafinesque). A short time later all but two of the dusky salamanders were removed. On March 23 one of these two was seen in the box but on March 24 both had disappeared. Later the same day the purple salamander, while being handled, disgorged the two dusky salamanders. They had been eaten apparently head first since the head and anterior portions of the body were the most digested. It would be interesting to know if salamanders form the chief food of the purple salamander and if this form has a definite method of swallowing its prey.

P. H. Pope, Pittsburg, Pa. G. K. Noble, New York, N. Y.

## THE MAP TURTLE, GRAPTEMYS GEOGRAPHICA (LE SUER) IN NEW YORK

The Map Turtle which is usually reported in accounts of New York reptiles as occurring only in the western part of the State is particularly abundant in the warm shallow bays of the south shore of Lake Ontario. In Great Sodus Bay a few hours' collecting in September, 1920, resulted in the capture of 14 individuals, varying in length of carapace from 2½ to 9 inches. Seven were seen at one time on the partly submerged hull of an old sail-boat and every suitable support in the vicinity held as many as could crowd upon it.

Extremely low water made their capture easy with a dip-net, as they could be followed in a boat and scooped up before finding refuge among the weeds of the deeper water. An early record of a specimen from Sodus Bay may be found in the 25th Report of the State Museum, 1873, p. 17.

This species is also to be found in Irondequoit Bay and a large female taken in November, 1917, is the COPRIA 81

model of a fine cast in the exhibit series of the State Museum. Dr. A. H. Wright (*Copeia*, No. 66, p. 7) mentioned a carapace taken June 27, 1914, at Hilton Beach. DeKay (New York Fauna, pt. 3, 1842, p. 19) stated that the species was not uncommon in the streams of Chautauqua and Erie Counties.

The occurrence of the Map Turtle in Lake Champlain was made known in 1842 by Zadock Thompson in his "History of Vermont"; and it may now be definitely recorded from Lake George. On July 20, 1920, a large female was found on Juanita Island and on August 10, 1921, a very large specimen was seen basking on a stranded log at Elizabeth Island. This specimen was captured the following day about five hundred yards away in shallow water and while confined in a box disgorged several large and many small fragments of shells of the fresh-water clam, Unio complanatus (Sol), hundreds of individuals of which were living in the lake bottom mud and sand in the vicinity.

It may be conjectured that the eastern extension of the range of the Map Turtle in New York has been by way of the St. Lawrence River and that specimens in Lake Champlain and Lake George came in by way of the Richelieu River rather than by following the Erie and Champlain canals across the state.

SHERMAN C. BISHOP, New York State Museum.

## THE FOOD CAPACITY OF THE TOAD

On the evening of July 19, 1920, a medium sized toad (Bufo fowleri Putnam) came to my porch where the common southern May Beetle (Lachnosterna ephilida Say) was swarming about the lights. I soon noticed that this toad was devouring all of the May Beetles that he could reach with his tongue and after I had fed him a few it occurred to me that it